

1st April 1930]

Veterinary

Stud bulls in the Presidency.

*1817 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have provided stud bulls of fine milking family to serve the milch cows in each and every taluk of this Presidency and if so, how many are now serving in each of the taluks of the districts of South Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore and the Nilgiris;

(b) whether the Government have given any and, if so, what aid for cattle-breeding for private landholders who keep herds of cattle?

A.—(a) Stud bulls are not provided in each and every taluk of the Presidency. The number of bulls stationed in the districts specified are given below:—

South Arcot district—				
Chidambaram taluk	...	...	...	1
Kallakurchi taluk	...	...	...	1
Coimbatore district—				
Avanasi taluk	...	...	...	3
Coimbatore taluk	...	...	...	2
Erode taluk	...	...	...	2
Gobichettipalayam taluk	...	...	...	2
Palladam taluk	...	...	...	2
Pollachi taluk	...	...	...	3
Salem district—				
Attur taluk	...	...	...	2
Hosur taluk	...	...	...	2
Salem taluk	...	...	...	2
Nilgiris district—				
Ootacamund taluk	...	...	...	2

(b) The Director of Agriculture has been empowered to grant a premium varying from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 per annum towards the cost of maintenance to private persons who maintain an approved bull and fulfil all the conditions laid down by the department.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1930-31.

GRANT VIII—ELECTRICITY

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 5,50,000 under Grant VIII—Electricity.'

"In the explanatory note which has been circulated to my hon. Friends all the facts are given. The two towns of Erode and Salem are desirous of having electricity supplied to them and consequently they themselves applied

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to the Mysore Darbar which has surplus energy to distribute. The Darbar refused to give it to them and subsequently these two towns approached Government and the Government have opened negotiations with the Mysore Darbar for the supply of this energy. The Mysore Darbar have consented to give power and the Chief Engineer was then asked to prepare an estimate and he has made an estimate the amount of which comes to about Rs. 5,50,000. This amount consists of the money necessary for constructing transmission lines and the power station at Mettur, Salem, Erode and the intermediate places. The calculation of Major Howard is that this will bring a profit of 9.15 per cent which is a very high rate of profit for any business concern. The scheme is thus a businesslike one and the two towns will be immediately benefited. There is also this further consideration. If we do not take now the supply of energy which the Mysore Darbar is willing to give these two towns, Erode and Salem, they will erect oil-engines either at their own expense or at the expense of other private persons, and if they once erect these engines for the supply of electricity within their premises, when the power either from the Mettur Dam or from the Pykara becomes available for distribution, it will be difficult to induce these two towns or the private persons who have set up electric installations to purchase power from us and it will be necessary for the Government to pay compensation to these towns or these persons. It will come to a very large amount and it will be a very great loss to the Government ultimately. What is more, the railway authorities themselves are anxious to purchase power, and they are prepared to purchase power from us provided we can give them a guarantee that in a reasonable time we shall be able to supply that power. If we erect these installations now at a cost of Rs. 5,50,000, at the end of two years, power will become available either from Mettur Dam or from the Pykara scheme and till then we shall be able to give this power. I therefore submit that in every way it is a profitable concern. Even two days ago, one of the officers connected with the South Indian Railway Company had an interview with my hon. Colleague, the hon. Member for Revenue. That shows the anxiety of the railway people to have an assurance that the Government will give them power in a reasonable time. It is in every way profitable to the general tax-payer because the rate of interest is 9.15 per cent and it is beneficial to the towns concerned. I hope, therefore, that the Council will be pleased to sanction the grant."

12-15
p.m.

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move
'To reduce the demand for Rs. 5,50,000 by Rs. 100.'

"I have very carefully heard the hon. the Law Member to see whether he would be able to throw any more light upon this question than is contained in this note. I find that I have not been able to get anything further than what is mentioned in the note. I am afraid the Government intends taking up this work so that the Railway company may be obliged. That looks to be the rule underlying this business. Therefore, Sir, I felt that it was my duty to ask for more light on this matter. I see from the note given to us that the Mysore Government have been consulted and no doubt they have agreed to the utilization of the surplus power but they desire that the power required for use in Salem and Erode should be taken as an independent supply and under a separate agreement. The terms of this agreement are not yet settled. We do not know what the terms will be. We do not know whether there will be any expenditure involved in the further agreement with the Mysore Government and there is the other question of the supply to these towns at a later period. The

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note emphasizes the Pykara system as the system from which these two towns will have to get their supply at a later period. The hon. the Law Member also mentioned the Mettur Dam. I do not know if power will be available from the Mettur Dam. I have no knowledge of it; but I take it on authority that it should be from the Pykara system that these two places should get their supply. I do not know whether the cost of erecting communication lines from Pykara system to Erode and Salem will be an additional expenditure in the bargain. The hon. the Law Member said, if private parties began supplying electricity to these two towns they would have to be compensated and it would be a very large amount. From the advertisements that I am seeing for electric licences, I find that the cost in ordinary municipalities is about two to three lakhs and in some cases even much less generally, but I do not know if the hon. the Law Member has got the figures for these two schemes before him. Sir, I feel that compensation to private companies may be more justified than taking up the scheme at present which costs five lakhs and a half and this sum will have to be further added when supply of power is got from the Pykara. I therefore feel that under the present circumstances I cannot vote for this demand without knowing further facts in the transactions. That the Railway company offers to take power from us is no doubt an advantage; I concede it. But I should also like to know whether the Railway company will not be able to get power from local installations in the meanwhile and whether the population cannot be trained to the use of electricity if private companies intervene. Then, Sir, there is the other question of agencies to distribute supply within the town which is being considered separately. This may also add some more money to the original demand of five lakhs and odd that has been made. I venture to think that there are uncertainties in the whole affair. It is not merely the five lakhs and odd that is contemplated to be spent in this behalf but there are three other items of expenditure which have to be added: (1) the cost in transport of the new power from Pykara to Salem and Erode, (2) the cost that may be involved in the terms that have to be entered into with the Mysore Government and (3) the cost that may arise out of the separate consideration of the agency to distribute supply within the town. Taking all these together I do not know whether it would not be advantageous for the Government to stop the present scheme and allow private agency to spring up. After all, if private agencies are allowed to generate electricity for these two towns, I do not think that it would result in such a big compensation as would involve Government in heavy sums of money. The Government will have only to deal with the generating plants for the purpose of compensation, for the lines of transmission in the towns could also be used by the Government when, at a later stage, they want to take it up in case power could be had from the Pykara. On these grounds, Sir, I think I could not vote for the demand."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Mr. President, Sir, I second the motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Harisarvottama Rao and think that the scheme is a premature one. Also, the information that has been made available to us regarding the scheme is very meagre and it does not show anything about the terms of the agreement with the Government of Mysore. We have not got the necessary facts and figures before us and things are being presented in a perfunctory and slipshod manner and I am really wondering how a demand for such a

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large sum of money could be made without bringing within the reach of the Members of this Council material which would help them to judge about the business side as well as the economic and industrial side of the scheme."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I should rather think that the explanatory note supplemented as it was by the speech of the hon. the Law Member has drawn too rosy a picture for me to take any objection. It is the duty—and this duty has been urged very often by the Opposition benches on the Government—that they should undertake such industrial concerns as early as possible. I think that in this matter the Government have acted with commendable promptitude. But I only want to be assured whether the rosy rate of interest, i.e., 9·15 per cent is going to stand till the end or whether it will diminish as years go on; because I always have suspicions about the Government's assumption about the percentage of profit the concern may yield. It may be that there has been an under-estimate of expenditure and over-estimation of receipts and after the vote of this House, when it becomes a practical scheme, it may yield 3 per cent or even below. I only want a definite assurance from the hon. the Law Member whether the rate of interest will be 9·15 per cent. I would not mind even if it is 8·15 per cent. If the Government reply that this rate of interest will be realized, I should be the last person to oppose this measure."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I shall first answer the question raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. What he wants from me is an assurance that the rate of 9·15 per cent mentioned in the explanatory note to which I referred in my speech, will stand and it will not diminish. My friend, if he looks at the table that has been given in the note will find that this profit of 9·15 per cent is a profit which we shall not be able to get in the first year, and we shall be able to get it only in the tenth year and after that time the chances are that instead of diminishing, it will go on increasing. In the initial stages, in the first or the second year, there may not be any profit at all, and the profit will go on increasing till it reaches the percentage of 9·15 and there are chances, as I have already said, for its further increase also.

" With reference to the first point raised by my friend Mr. Harisaravottama Rao, I may say that the transmission lines to Erode and Salem, whoever may be the person distributing electricity, are necessary and will have to be there. These lines will have to be constructed either now or in the future. The adoption of this scheme now is, as I have already stated, to avoid payment of large compensations in future. The transmission lines and sub stations are there and can be made use of at all times.

" The next point raised by my friend is about the terms with the Government of Mysore. The terms have not yet been finally settled. Our Chief Engineer is negotiating with the Mysore Darbar and Mr. Howard has promised to get the terms settled, as far as possible, in our favour. Briefly they are that we should take power from them till the year 1934. The rate per unit is between 75 anna and 60 anna. This by itself is favourable and Mr. Howard hopes to have the terms still further reduced in our favour.

" My friend seems to suggest that private people may be allowed to erect oil-engines for the generation of electricity till we are able to get power from Pykara. In addition to constructing these plants, they will have to

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construct sub-stations and transmission lines, the cost of which would come to roughly the same amount as is being asked for now, namely, 5½ lakhs. And all these sums we shall have to pay by way of compensation when we get power from Pykara on a future date. These are the points, I think, which Mr. Harisarvottama Rao raised, and I hope I have satisfied him."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"From the note itself, I thought the scheme was something good. But the second explanation of the hon. the Law Member seems to have made it a very doubtful thing indeed. (The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar: I am very sorry.) He said, for instance, that the transmission lines are to be from Mettur to Erode and Salem, even after the Pykara system comes into force. I am sorry, Sir, he has not probably looked into the map as to how the thing stands. The Pykara power will have to come to Erode, and from Erode it will have to go to Salem or Mettur. Now, he explained that the arrangement with the Mysore Government is that the power necessary for working the Mettur project will be taken from Mysore. Therefore, when that work is finished, there will be no necessity to take power from Mysore for Mettur. All the power required for the Mettur project has to be taken from Mysore. Such being the case, there is absolutely no necessity whatever for any transmission lines from Erode to Mettur, either to take power from Erode to Mettur or from Salem to Mettur, after the Mettur project is finished. So far as the transmission line is concerned, it is from Erode to Salem and not from Mettur to Salem. The two lines are quite different. So it is not clear why we should have these transmission lines, unless we are going to give up taking power from the Pykara scheme. After all, what is the difference in time? From the note supplied to us the other day, we find that power from Pykara will be available about the end of 1932. Now we are in 1930, and we have got only 20 or 21 months before we can get power from the Pykara scheme. It will be a very great thing if our officers can be made to finish the work of constructing the transmission lines within a year, and then the difference will be only nine or ten months. And for these ten months we are going to spend five lakhs and odd for transmission lines from Mettur to Salem and Erode. Now, we are getting power for Mettur from Mysore. I do not think it will be necessary for us to take power from Mysore also for Erode and Salem, but we ought to take power from Pykara. This aspect of the matter seems to have escaped the attention of the hon. the Law Member. I would respectfully ask him to consider that point of view and see whether we should commit ourselves to this wasteful expenditure over the erection of these transmission lines which will not be needed afterwards.

"Also, I may ask him to consider the other question why, when power from Pykara is going to be available from 1932, we should commit ourselves to take power from Mysore up to 1934. So far as Mettur is concerned, we have entered into an agreement with Mysore for supply of power. I do not see why we should enter into a fresh agreement with Mysore for the sake of Salem and Erode, while we are going to have power available from our own source. Some time ago, a pamphlet was circulated to the Members of this House with reference to the Pykara scheme. There, the Government said that they felt some difficulty about the distribution of power from Pykara, and they doubted whether they would have sufficient demand. Such being the case, if even the demand that is available is going to be frittered away like this, and if we are going to commit ourselves to take power from Mysore till

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1934, I do not think I can congratulate the Government on this affair. These are considerations which I would ask the hon. the Law Member to consider very carefully before he presses this demand."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is—

'To reduce the Demand for Rs. 5,50,000 under Grant VIII—Electricity by Rs. 100.'"

The motion was negatived.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is—

'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 5,50,000 under Grant VIII—Electricity.'"

The motion was adopted, and the grant was made.

GRANT XX—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,800 under Grant XX—Education—Transferred.'

"I think the explanatory memorandum which has been placed before hon. Members of this House clearly explains why this grant is asked for. It is for the provision of music classes for the B.A. degree in the Queen Mary's College, Madras."

The motion was adopted, and the grant was made.

GRANT XXI—MEDICAL.

* The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 23,600 under Grant XXI—Medical.'

"Mr. President, it will be seen from the explanatory note that has been circulated, that from the 1st April 1929, the pay of the medical men, who have not been taken over by the Civil department and continue in the Military has been raised. Their pay having been raised in the Military department, the Government of Madras have to pay them the same pay as they are paid in the Indian Medical Department. The extra expenditure on account of their pay due for the year that has just closed and for the present year is shown in the explanatory note. I therefore move that the Government be granted that sum of Rs. 23,600."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"I move—

'To reduce the Demand for Rs. 23,600 under Grant XXI—Medical by Rs. 100.'

My object in moving this motion is to discuss the question of policy underlying this expenditure. It is stated that it has been a longstanding arrangement by which these Military medical men have been employed in the Civil establishment in this Presidency. What is asked for here is that in consequence of raising the standard of their pay in the Military department

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the same should be done with regard to those officers employed in the Civil establishment, with effect from the 1st April 1929. Sir, there are two particular questions involved in this, the expenditure with regard to the year that has already passed and the expenditure with regard to the year that is to come. These two are clubbed together, and we are asked to make one grant. In this Demand, I should very much have preferred that Government came to us with two separate demands, or we would have been satisfied by their including their coming year's pay in the budget itself. But, we are told that sufficient time was not available to the Accountant-General to issue pay slips before the 15th March 1930. I have not practical knowledge of that matter, and therefore, I do not want to discuss it. But anyhow, I want to ask the hon. the Minister why it was not quite possible for him to bring it within the range of the budget.

"Now, Sir, with regard to the policy followed, it might have been urged in times past that it was necessary. Now I want to ask the hon. the Minister whether it is not time that he reconsiders this arrangement, or asks the Government to reconsider the matter. The army is not sufficiently now within our power, and so, to ask us to take Military men in our employ under the responsibility of the Minister does not appear to be a correct thing. As long as this department was under a bureaucrat it was all right. Now that this department is under a Minister, it is essential that this department should be absolutely independent of dictation from outside. Now that these men are Military men, there are bound to be occasions when there will be dictation from higher quarters to the hon. the Minister. I consider it inadvisable that a responsible Minister should be called upon to hold the reins over an administration which includes men over whom some other department which is not within the scope of the Local Government has control. It is not right that the Minister should be saddled with a responsibility like that. I, therefore, feel that the India Government and the Local Government should re-examine this matter in the light of the constitutional changes that have taken place within the last few years. I do not know whether the hon. Minister has felt any difficulty himself, or not. If he has not felt it, I may say he will have to feel the difficulty in course of time, or his successor might have to feel it. Therefore it is time that he woke up to the situation and saw how this could be modified so that he might have nothing to do with the Military department, or with administering a department in which Military men are employed owing to some arrangement that existed years ago. I do think that the inclusion of Military men in the Civil establishment either in the lower grades or in the provincial cadres is likely to affect the interests of the civil services men. For this reason, the question of the employment of these Military men in the Civil department should be reconsidered, and I do want the hon. the Minister to examine whether these men cannot be kept in a separate cadre where they will be promoted amongst themselves. I do not know if he has carefully considered this question and the question whether their retention affects the promotion of regular men in the Civil establishment, and come to a proper understanding on these matters. If so, I should like to be enlightened by him."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I have pleasure in seconding this motion, and I may point out the undesirability of the Civil department getting themselves entangled with the Military department in the matter of appointment of these military assistant surgeons. Unless we now make an attempt to gradually

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1934, I do not think I can congratulate the Government on this affair. These are considerations which I would ask the hon. the Law Member to consider very carefully before he presses this demand."

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'To reduce the Demand for Rs. 5,50,000 under Grant VIII—Electricity by Rs. 100.'"

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'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 23,600 under Grant XXI—Medical.'

"Mr. President, it will be seen from the explanatory note that has been circulated, that from the 1st April 1929, the pay of the medical men, who have not been taken over by the Civil department and continue in the Military has been raised. Their pay having been raised in the Military department, the Government of Madras have to pay them the same pay as they are paid in the Indian Medical Department. The extra expenditure on account of their pay due for the year that has just closed and for the present year is shown in the explanatory note. I therefore move that the Government be granted that sum of Rs. 23,600."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"I move—

'To reduce the Demand for Rs. 23,600 under Grant XXI—Medical by Rs. 100.'

My object in moving this motion is to discuss the question of policy underlying this expenditure. It is stated that it has been a longstanding arrangement by which these Military medical men have been employed in the Civil establishment in this Presidency. What is asked for here is that in consequence of raising the standard of their pay in the Military department

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to do with the Indian Medical Service and the Indian Medical Department. These two are entirely different. One is recruited from persons who are trained in the colleges in India and is a purely Indian service. It is not filled by any competitive examination held either in India or in England. It has nothing whatever to do with the Lee Commission recommendations. Lee Commission recommendations have bearing on the Indian Medical Service and not on the Indian Medical Department which is a separate thing from the Indian Medical Service. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: 'Then what is the Madras Medical Service?') Under the Lee Commission recommendations and the final orders of the Secretary of State for India, the number of Indian Medical Officers for this province has been reduced from 50 to 29 recently. That is the number we are bound to maintain according to the Lee Commission recommendations. But we are dealing with a new thing. We are not obliged to maintain Indian Medical Department men in the Madras Medical Department. But hon. Members will remember that the Indian Military Service men are paid for by the tax-payer. For the purpose of cutting down the military expenditure, various provincial Governments said that they would employ some of the military assistant surgeons in the Civil Service. Now if all the Governments say that they do not want these people in the Civil Medical Service the Military department are bound to take them back sooner or later, but that will only increase the expenditure on the maintenance of the Military department. So that by a sort of arrangement between the Military department and the various provincial Governments some of the military assistant surgeons in the Military department have been taken over by the provincial Governments for the Civil Medical department. Till now the number in this province has been 22 and the question whether the same number should remain or should be reduced is under the consideration of the Madras Government for about one year and correspondence is going on with the concerned authorities. There is really no extra expenditure involved. Till now by having the service of these military men, the Madras Government were making a profit. By a comparison of the scales of pay given at page 8 of the notes you will see that these military assistant surgeons in our service were being paid less than what is being paid to the men in the provincial service. The pay of the men in the provincial service is higher than that of the men in the military medical service. This disparity was brought to our notice long ago and the Secretary of State decided to revise their pay. But I may say that even this revised scale is less than what we pay to our own provincial service officers. That is why it is said that eventually there will be no extra expenditure. These people will cost us less than our own provincial service officers.

"Mr. Harisarvottama Rao asked if there is any question of clash of interests between these people and the provincial service men as regards the terms of employment and all that. A reference to the Medical List will show that these men are kept on a separate cadre. They do not compete for promotion with the provincial men. Their pay is according to a time-scale and if they obtain commissioned rank before they become civil surgeons, they go back and the Government of India are bound to take them back. So that there is absolutely no clash of interests between our provincial medical service men and the Indian Medical Department people who are in our service. Nobody suffers. On the other hand, I may inform hon. Members who look forward to more power to provincial Governments and who wish to

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have the military under their own control, should welcome this practice. These 22 people of the medical department have been under the civil control of Madras Government. They have absolutely given no trouble. They are perfectly amenable to discipline under the civil authorities in Madras. If hon. Members of this House look forward to a time when they will have the military under their control, they should welcome this practice and try to get more military people under the control of the provincial Government. As I said the question as to what number we should retain is under correspondence with the authorities concerned. But so long as they are in our service, we are bound to pay them this increased salary from 1929 onwards as agreed to by us."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

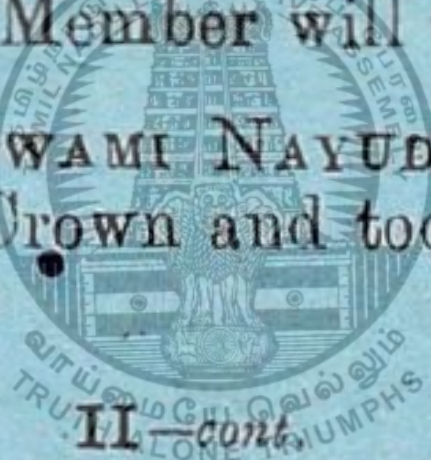
The demand was then put and carried and the grant was made.

• III

NEW MEMBER.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"As the Council is not likely to continue the sitting after lunch, the new Member will take the oath now."

Rao Bahadur K. KRISHNASWAMI NAYUDU then made the prescribed affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and took his seat.



DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1930-31—cont

GRANT XXVIII—FISHERIES.

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 4,200 under Grant XXVIII—Fisheries.'

"This provides for the appointment of an assistant biologist in the Fisheries department. The chief recommendation of the Fisheries Committee was that the research section should be strengthened in all possible ways and one item of research was the appointment of an assistant biologist. As explained in the note, if the work of the trawler is to be of any use, an assistant biologist should work on the vessel till the middle of March 1932. If maximum advantage is to be taken of the work of the trawler, it is necessary that the proposed appointment should be made as early as possible. I hope the Council will sanction this appointment by making the grant."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"Sir, I move—

'That the allotment of Rs. 4,200 be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I have a strange suspicion that this is a grant which should have been included in the budget. It has become a fashion with the Members on the Treasury Bench to spring on us supplementary demands for quite ordinary things."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Does not the hon. Member think that this is an opportunity to discuss this item in more detail than during the budget debate ? ”

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ I know this is an opportunity given to us to discuss it in more detail, but I should like to question the business aspect of it. I do not know, Sir, whether the Government could not be more alert and whether they could not have made up their mind earlier. At page 11 of the explanatory note we are told that though the Director of Fisheries sent in his proposals relating to this subject in August 1929, it has not been possible till now to decide what minimum scientific staff would be needed to make a beginning. I wonder why it took our Government such a long time to make up their mind to make a beginning in regard to this matter. We are told, Sir, that very great developments are in store for us in the Fisheries department. We are also told that there would be research both for inland fisheries and marine fisheries and therefore we are asked to vote a small sum to-day for an assistant biologist to work on the trawler and also to supervise the work at Calicut and Krusadai island. There is a saying in Telugu కొండపై ఎలకను పట్టినట్లు. The English rendering of it will be something like digging a mountain to catch just a rat. When we look forward to a big future for the Fisheries department, the thing dwindles into the appointment of an assistant biologist.

“ The Director sent his proposals even in August 1929, and it has taken 1 a long time for the Government to come to a decision on this matter. There seems to be something wrong somewhere. This beginning appears to be an eye-wash, so that this House may think that the recommendations of the Fisheries Committee are being given effect to. If effect is to be given to the report of the Fisheries Committee, all their recommendations should be given effect to. How the experiment they are now making will fit in with the other recommendations is not clear to a layman like me. I do not know whether it is clear to the hon. Minister. Unless the hon. Minister puts forward a complete constructive programme, I do not think that tinkering here and tinkering there will do.

“ In my district, there is a fish pond ; people there are against it because irrigation suffers. In a district where there is very little facility for irrigation the question whether a fish pond is a necessity in the interests of that district has to be considered fully. The scheme contemplated here is to fill every pond with fish and make fish available as food ; the question whether the irrigation of the district will not suffer and is not more important has to be carefully considered. Before that is done, we should not take the advice of a mere expert in the matter. Though I am not prepared to oppose this motion, I should remind the hon. Minister that this is a very parsimonious way of dealing with the recommendations of the Fisheries Committee. Moreover this is a wrong way of dealing with the report of the Committee, because the hon. Minister is attending only to minute details before grasping the whole scheme laid down in the report.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Sir, it is regrettable that the Government deal with the proposals of the Fisheries Committee in a piecemeal and tinkering fashion. The report of that Committee covers several grounds. The Government have taken up only this item of the schemes. The note is drawn up in a somewhat eloquent language. I want to know whether the Madras

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Government have investigated into the question of pisciculture. This question is, I think, an all-India one; this is not a provincial matter. I think this matter should be referred to the Government of India. Fishes are not confined to this Presidency alone. Sardines are found in this Presidency seas as well as in the seas of other provinces; they are not the monopoly of this Government. The whole question of the life of sardine, and other fishes, their wanderings, their migrations, have to be dealt with comprehensively. The appointment of one assistant officer to look after a very large area will not meet the requirements.

"Where is this beginning to end? You are appointing an assistant biologist. Where is the biologist? The report of the Fisheries Committee has, in view, a big prospect of undertaking big enterprises which will cost crores of rupees. The Government should take a comprehensive view of the report of the Committee and inform us how this proposal fits in with the whole project. If we are to begin, let us begin in a thorough fashion, and not in this tinkering fashion. I therefore oppose this grant altogether. The Government should take us more into their confidence. I wonder whether the hon. Minister has got any idea of what he is going to do. As I pointed out the other day, this department is a curse to the fishermen. The cost of fish-curing has increased; their industry is ruined. The Government have not considered that question. Instead of considering that point, they have come forward now with an additional expenditure. I think it will be foolish to start this small adventure which promises only to be a beginning of a big venture without any policy or programme."

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Sir, I am sorry that hon. Members have not looked into the details of the Budget for the Fisheries department. Three items have been proposed to be taken up during the year 1930-31; one is the establishment of a fresh water farm at Chetput to improve the inland fishery, the other is the appointment of a Pisciculturist to undertake propaganda for rural pisciculture. The third is the appointment of an Assistant Biologist. The question regarding Marine Biological Station at Madras has to be further examined. The matter now before the House is urgent as will be seen from page 12 of the explanatory memorandum. The trawler has returned recently from Bombay fully equipped for the conduct of survey of fishing grounds and she will, for the present, be employed on this work till the middle of March 1932. If maximum advantage is to be taken of the work of the trawler, it is necessary that the proposed Assistant Biologist should be appointed as early as possible. It is for this purpose that this supplementary demand is moved. With regard to inland fisheries, there is already a proposal to have a Biological Station at Madras. We hope that this will be taken up the next year."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,200 by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is that 'the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 4,200 under Grant XXVIII—Fisheries'."

The motion was adopted and the grant was made.

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GRANT XXXI—CIVIL WORKS.

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move 'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 76,500 under grant XXXI—Civil Works'.

1-15
p.m.

" This provides for—

	RS.
(a) Extension of a room in the Queen Mary's College, Madras, so as to provide for the opening of classes in Indian music for the B.A. course. (This has just now been sanctioned.)	1,500
(b) Acquisition of the 'Retreat' for the location of the Juvenile Court and Remand Home for the City of Madras	29,500
(c) Construction of a practical class room for the Weaving section of the Textile Institute	45,500

" With regard to item (a), this Council sanctioned this morning provision for the opening of classes in Indian music. For this we require the extension of a room in the Queen Mary's College.

" With regard to the acquisition of the 'Retreat', the Inspector-General of Prisons has recommended that this building may be acquired by Government for the location of the remand home and hence this supplementary demand.

" With regard to item (c), namely, the construction of a practical class room for the Weaving section, we are now having the Weaving section in a rented building, which is about two miles from the Old Leather Trades Institute. As it is found difficult for the Superintendent to go to the place very often, as also for the students in the hot sun, we want to have a permanent building for the purpose. The demand could not be got at an earlier date, because the question of having a temporary or a permanent accommodation was not then settled. Now, as it has been decided that a permanent building would be more suitable and as the proposal could not be placed before the Finance Committee before the date of the presentation of the budget, it has to be brought forward as a supplementary demand."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

GRANT XXXVII—LOANS AND ADVANCES BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move 'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 15,000 under Grant XXXVII—Loans and Advances by Provincial Government.

" Sir, this provides for a loan for the Central Land Mortgage Bank. The reason for the demand has already been explained in the explanatory note submitted to hon. Members. The Government have already given a guarantee when the Central Land Mortgage Bank was started in Madras. As it is, they find it very difficult to run the institution for want of sufficient establishment and they have no money on hand to meet the requirements for

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starting the bank. So, they have applied to Government for a subsidy and Government was prepared only to grant a loan to the institution. Hence this demand."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I have to inform the House that the following message dated to-day has been received from His Excellency the Governor :—

'In pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 72-B of the Government of India Act, I, George Frederick Stanley, Governor of Madras, do hereby prorogue the session of the Madras Legislative Council at the conclusion of its business on the 1st April 1930.'

IV

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

Report ^a on the water-supply in the Chidambaram Municipality (with reference to question No. 1345 answered on the 28th January 1930).

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

